

Surah 103 Surah Asr

TIME

THE LINK AND SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

In contrast to Surah Takaathur, Surah Asr goes a step further in expounding the theme of abstinence from material things. Whereas Surah Takaathur cautions people against boasting about wealth and children, Surah Asr reminds man to reflect upon the vicissitudes of time and how it brings about changes in one's fortune. People are urged to contemplate about the repercussions that their forefathers felt when they took excessive pride in the material profits of this world. The only possessions they gained was remorse and regret.

سُورَةُ الْعَصْرِ مَكِّيَّةٌ وَهِيَ ثَلَاثُ آيَاتٍ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

وَالْعَصْرِ ۝

1. By the oath of time! (the passage of time that overtakes everything material)

إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لِفِي خُسْرٍ ۝

2. Verily man is at a loss (in both worlds)...

إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَّصُوا بِالحَقِّ وَتَوَّصُوا بِالصَّبْرِ ۝

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- 3...except those who have Imaan, who do good deeds, who encourage (urge and counsel) each other towards (remaining steadfast on and propagate) the truth and who encourage each other to exercise Sabr. (This Surah is so comprehensive that the renowned scholar Imaam Shaafi'ee (R.A) stated that if nothing but this Surah was revealed, it would have been sufficient for the guidance of man.)